



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Arts Council Minutes 06/13/2001

### Arlington Arts Council

*Minutes of June 13, 2001 – Community Safety Building*

**Present:** Members -- Christine Alaimo, Mary Babic, Diane Connor, Shari Craig, Jamie Doyle, Cheryl Hemenway, Carol Mahoney, Suzanne McLeod, Amy Peters, Bob Zinck  
Guests—Laurence McKinney, Elinore Kagan  
**Absent:** Kathleen Callahan Phelps, Jessica Siegel, David Silverman

*Shari Craig called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.*

#### **Item One -- Minutes**

Christine Alaimo moved to approve the minutes from May 2, 2001. Cheryl Hemenway seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item Two -- Requests for Payments**

Robert Zinck moved to approve payment of \$35.00 to Council member Carol Mahoney for administrative expenses (for stationary). Shari Craig seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Robert Zinck moved to approve final payment of \$490.00 to Arlington Friends of the Drama/Theater Outreach to the Community (grant #2001-09). Shari Craig seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item Three – MAASH Membership**

MAASH, Massachusetts Advocated for the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities, was discussed. Shari Craig read from the MAASH literature and explained that joining MAASH could have benefits for the Council as a way of learning about what else is going on throughout the state in the arts, including what is going on with local legislature concerning the arts. MAASH membership costs \$20.00 for the year. Christine Alaimo moved that the Council join MAASH. Suzanne McLeod seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item Four – Projects for the Summer**

Town Day: Town Day (September 15, 2001) was discussed and it was determined that the Council should have a Town Day committee to review the details of Town Day in greater depth and make all necessary plans and arrangements, including: determining what our table/booth will consist of and creating a schedule for other members to volunteer time at the table/booth. Amy Peters volunteered to lead the Town Day committee. Suzanne McLeod volunteered to fill out the application for our table/booth at Town Day later this week.

By-Laws: It was discussed that the Council should have a committee to review our by-laws and determine if we want to make any changes to our by-laws. Christine Alaimo and Shari Craig volunteered to lead the by-laws committee. Christine Alaimo and Shari Craig asked all members to read the current by-laws and to email Christine Alaimo with any ideas or comments regarding the by-laws.

Christine Alaimo will compile all comments from all members for discussion in the meeting next month. It was agreed that this would facilitate an organized and time-effective way of reviewing our by-laws in the meeting in July. Christine Alaimo also agreed to send a photocopy of the by-laws to Elinore Kagan.

Grant Cycle: It was discussed that the Council should have a committee to review the entire grant cycle. Volunteers for the grant cycle committee include: Suzanne McLeod, Shari Craig, and Cheryl Hemenway.

Community Input: It was discussed that the Council should have a committee to plan a community input meeting and/or any other opportunities for gathering community input for the Council. It was suggested that Open Studios might present a unique opportunity for having a community input meeting that would piggyback on this event when residents of the town are out visiting studios and the Arlington Center for the Arts. The committee will look into our hosting a reception of some sort to get community input during Open

Studios or during another time. September and October were identified as good times to host a community input meeting. Volunteers for the community input committee include: Diane Connor, Christine Alaimo, Amy Peters, and Shari Craig.

**Item Five – Potential new members**

The Council discussed that it now has 12 voting members, 5 of whom are new to the Council. It was determined that the Council would add one new member at this time, but would then benefit from limiting new members after that. Shari Craig moved that the Council add only one member and then to cap its current membership at 13 voting members for the time being. Christine Alaimo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item Six – Vote on potential new members**

Shari Craig moved to nominate Elinor Kagan as a member of the Arlington Arts Council. Suzanne McLeod seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Shari Craig voted to nominate Laurence McKinney as a member of the Arlington Arts Council. Amy Peters seconded. The motion was declined.

**Item Seven – LCC Workshop Discussion**

Several Council members attended the LCC New Members Workshop in Lexington last month and brought new ideas back to the Council, including the following:

1. Compiling a database of individuals for Council mailings. (Such mailings might include mailings related to grant applications, recruiting new members, or announcing the community input meeting). Carol Mahoney volunteered to pull together the list of grant applicants for the last two years and supply Cheryl Hemenway with those names and addresses. Cheryl Hemenway volunteered to add those names and addresses to a database for future mailings. Guest Laurence McKinney suggested that we confirm that the database is a standard one, such as one that is Microsoft Office compatible, so that the Council does not begin a database using software that might become out of date or less useful in the future.
2. Creating a yearly calendar of Council activities and goals. It was agreed that the Council would benefit from having a yearly calendar of what we want to accomplish each month for all members to reference. Suzanne McLeod volunteered to pull together the Council's annual calendar for review in our next meeting.
3. Council-originated grants. The Council discussed this issue and several members expressed enthusiasm over a Council-originated grant.

**Item Eight – New project for the coming year**

Christine Alaimo offered two examples from other towns: Run for the Arts (road race to raise money, the course takes runners past organized poetry readings, artists' displays of their work, arts/crafts stations for children, etc.; Amherst, MA, does something like this each year) and Art in the Park (an art sale and festival in a outdoor open space). Cheryl Hemenway explained that the art show for seniors at the high school is too large for the space they have previously used and that the Council could get involved in helping them locate a space to facilitate this exhibit. All other members agreed to give more thought to additional projects for the coming year.

**Item Nine – Other business**

1. Christine Alaimo distributed an updated list of Council members with addresses, home and work telephone numbers, and email addresses. Several members requested for privacy and security reasons that this list be kept confidential and would only be circulated among Council members.
2. Christine Alaimo brought up the issue of the time of our monthly meetings. Several members would have a difficult time regularly making it to meetings that began earlier than 7:30 pm, so future meetings will continue to start at 7:30 whenever possible.

***The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm by Shari Craig.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Alaimo, *Recording Secretary*

Bob Sprague  
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